

Applicant : Carlos Silva et al.
Serial No. : 09/475,391
Filed : December 30, 1999
Page : 4

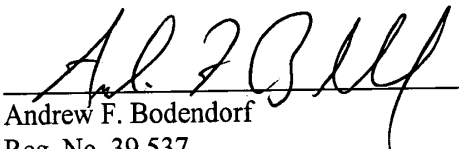
Attorney's Docket No.: 06975-048001

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 19-25 have been added by this amendment. No new matter is added. A favorable examination on the merits of all claims is respectfully requested. A check in the amount of \$210 is enclosed for the additional claims. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: JUNE 11, 2002



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Paragraph beginning at page 12, line 13 has been amended as follows:

-- The display shown in Fig. 9 illustrates how a display can simultaneously present a television program and a chat room. The television program and chat room may be independent. That is, a user could change TV shows **[with]** without changing chat rooms and vice-versa --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 10, 14, 15, 16 and 18 have been amended as follows:

10. (Amended) A method of assigning a user to a chat room, the method comprising:
providing a user interface that displays television programming;
transmitting identification of the television programming displayed on the user interface to a network server; and
presenting a chat room on the user interface that includes messages received by the network server **[by]** from other users viewing the **[same]** television programming.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting identification comprises transmitting identification in response to a change of channel.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting identification comprises transmitting identification in response to user interaction with a user interface element.

16. (Amended) A system for assigning a person to a chat room, the system comprising:
server software resident on a network server, the software including:
instructions for distributing messages received **[by]** from chat room members **[with]** to other chat room members;
instructions for providing chat rooms corresponding to different television programming; and
instructions for
determining the television programming tuned to by a networked device that receives television programming; and

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assigning a network user using the **[set-top box]** networked device to a chat room based on the determined television programming; and;
client software residing on **[a]** the networked device, the client software including:
instructions for transmitting identification of the television programming being displayed by the networked **[set-top box]** device; and
instructions for displaying chat room messages submitted by other chat room members.

18. (Amended) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for assigning a user to a chat room, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:
provide a user interface that displays television programming;
transmit identification of the television programming to a network server; and
present a chat room that includes messages received by the network server **[by]** from other users viewing the **[same]** television programming.



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Carlos Silva et al. Art Unit : 2756
Serial No. : 09/475,391 Examiner : Unknown
Filed : December 30, 1999
Title : TELEVISION CHAT ROOMS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

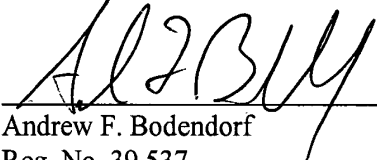
STATUS INQUIRY

Applicant respectfully inquires as to the status of the above application. The application was filed on December 30, 1999 and its last known status was a Status Letter Reply indicating that the expected date for action on this application was May 2002.

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Respectfully submitted,

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